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COUNTRY	East Germany			REPORT NO.	
TOPIC	Military Information from Dessau-Rosslau				
EVALUATION		25X1			25X1
DATE OF CONTENT	20 October to 8 November 1952				
DATE OBTAINED		25X1	DATE PREPARED	10 December 1952	
REFERENCES					25X1
PAGES	3	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)			
REMARKS	<p>RECEIVED 1952</p> <p>DO NOT WRITE</p>				

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- From 20 October to 8 November 1952, the engineer training sites on the Elbe River near Dessau-Rosslau were being vacated with tents being taken down and cantonment buildings partially dismantled. No bridge constructions or other engineer training were observed on the Elbe River. The piles driven for bridge constructing during the preceding weeks were being removed by a civilian contractor with pile removers.
- From 20 October to 8 November, the buildings of the former engineer school in the barracks installation in Rosslau, north of Dessau, were occupied to capacity by about 2,500 to 3,000 troops which, [redacted] belonged to a medium and a heavy tank regiment equipped with a total of 150 tanks. In addition to the tanks, AT guns of various calibers were seen. No training activity was observed. The troops daily engaged in fatigue duty and maintaining of motor vehicles. On 4 November, several armored scout cars entered the installation, coming from the direction of Zerbst. Groups of 60 to 80 men wearing either red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia or black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia daily left the installation and departed from the Dessau railroad station aboard regular trains toward Magdeburg. The other sections of the barracks installation in Rosslau were heavily occupied by about 150 officers and 1,500 to 1,700 troops who belonged either to engineer or to tank units, during the period mentioned. No training activity was observed except for the maintaining of motor vehicles and equipment, which was performed daily. Beginning late October, an unusually large number of young soldiers with cropped hair were seen in the installation.

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3. On 3 November, the barracks installation in Rossau was occupied to capacity by about 2,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. [redacted] tank units were also stationed at the installation. On 21 October, 3 T-34/35 tanks went toward the cantonment at Gross Kuehnau, coming from the installation. On 27 October and 3 November, about 200 troops, some with and the others without rifles, received individual training. [redacted] they were recruits. Little infantry training and maintenance work were observed.

4. From 23 to 31 October, Camp Gross Kuehnau, west of Dessau, was occupied by about 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Camouflaged tanks, trucks and sedans were seen. [redacted] a tank unit and a large repair shop unit were stationed there. [redacted] 25 troops with full field pack and carbines or submachine guns left the installation on 23 October, proceeding toward [redacted].

5. From 31 October to 5 November, the barracks installation in Rossau was occupied to capacity by about 5,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery, signal and motor transport insignia, and black-bordered black epaulets. All quartering buildings were fully lighted after nightfall. Training practice with 37-mm AA guns, maintenance work, cleaning of weapons and field training close to the installation were observed. Several corrugated sheet metal buildings, about 20 meters long, with splinterproof protection and ventilation, which were continuously guarded, were seen in the east section of the barracks installation.

6. [redacted]

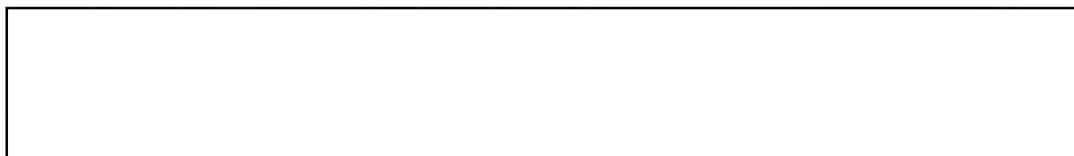
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

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 Comment. The 7th Gds Tank Div, the bulk of which is stationed in the barracks installation in Rossau, during the period from 21 to 24 September 1952 returned on 31 trains to its post from Letzlin Heath, probably from a final exercise near Bittkau. 

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 Comment. This installation is mentioned for the first time.

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